

Colored Convention.

Louisville, Ky. Sept. 25.—When Fred Douglass, at 10 o'clock this morning came into Liederkranz hall to deliver his speech, he found a very large crowd in attendance, many white persons having come to hear his plea for his people. On the stage, besides leading colored men, sat ex-Attorney General James Speed of Lincoln's cabinet, General James A. Eakin, United States army, retired, and a number of other whites of prominence. Douglass spoke two hours and always interesting. He sketched the history of his race since the emancipation, and was frequently sarcastically severe on the government and incidentally upon the republican party. He was listened to with interest and received frequent and generous applause.

Since the conclusion of his speech the convention has in vain labored to complete its organization. Too many orators are on the floor, and Green, temporary chairman, who is presiding while Douglass rests from his recent exertion, is unable to control them.

Since Fred Douglass has been a freeman he has probably not been prouder than when he walked down the hall to the president's desk this morning. The really fine looking old colored apostle of his race was dressed for the occasion. His white hair never streamed in the wind more bravely, nor was his step ever firmer. He had won a victory it seemed to white and black alike here, and he had a right to feel elated. The white and black had come to hear the most celebrated colored man in the world. Leading lawyers, merchants, doctors and military men of the white race sat on the platform and on the outskirts of the hall. It was a scene to enthuse, and Douglass felt it. He had a message to send to the country, and sent it in excellent form. Referring to the old days, when the specter of slavery haunted the land, he passed quickly to better and brighter days which brought freedom, education and enfranchisement. Referring to causes leading to the convention, he said:

No reasonable man will ever object to white men holding a national convention when they are in our condition and we in theirs. Examples are plentifully abundant where whites have hated the blacks, borderman the Indians, the negro, the Chinese, and vice versa. We must move as a people toward the goal of prosperity and education. Now that we are free men, take the reins in our own hands and compel the world to receive us as their equals. This city metropolitan in size and cosmopolitan in ideas, is still not free and liberal enough in opinions to receive us as equals in the public buildings and hotels. This is why we are now sitting in a national convention. We have given numerous platforms, but we are still in the same condition. What we want is not words, idle epithets in our praise, but actions. We have never been helped upward, but assistance comes from all sides to help us in our downward course. If we come as cart drivers or as servants, we are received; but when we come as scholars or statesmen, the color line is raised. The colored man is an oppressed and abject race in the United States. Trades unions refused him admission, mechanics refused him as an apprentice, and even when he dies the same old contempt and despite follows him, and he is spurned from the gates and compelled to seek a resting place of his own. If he applies for admission to colleges or aspires to an education and a profession, the race line is again drawn. That is what we are here for to raise this line and make it the equal of the whites. The cause lies more in the diseased imagination of the Americans than in firm belief. We are here to see that men of our color accused of crime shall have a fair trial, that all these outrageous lynchings be stopped. Our business is to organize for our rights and for redress of our wrongs. Some say that we should not hold this convention for it menaces the republican party. Parties are made for men, and not men for parties. My hat was made for my head, and not my head for my hat. If parties do right stand by

them, but when they do not uphold their principles laid down in their platform, down with them. Follow no party blindly. We have learned how to talk, and let us speak for ourselves about civil rights. Every man is sole proprietor and lord of his own house, but when any place is opened for public, everybody has the right to enter. This does not make men equal. Talent and intelligence are always triumphant.

When I speak to an intelligent man five minutes I forget all his color.

Now about political equality. I never was a politician. I began my career as a pleader for the aggrandizement of my race, and I am not afraid to tell what I think about all kinds of equality. This stamping out of black republicans of the south has been done in the face of the republican party. This convention should implore congress for the abolition of this most detestable state of affairs. Make the constitution practically what it is theoretically, and there will be an end to all this filth of the ballot box and to all the injustice of the color line.

The New York Evening Post makes a great mistake when it says: "Be modest, you that have been but twenty years out of bondage." These office holders are afraid of our aspirants. We do aspire, and will continue to do so. We have heard the voice of Jacob and felt the hand of Esau.

We shall never cease to be despised and an excluded class as long as we are shut out from political preferment. We cannot ignore the fact that to this is to be attributed the degradation of the race. Elevate one of our class to the vice presidency or to a position in the cabinet, and our equality shall be established. We are not prepared as yet, but let us aspire to those positions which we can fill. We hold it self evident that a nation made up of all varieties should not be governed by one class. When there is a ruling class there is a subject class, and when the day comes when this nation is governed by one class it ceases to be a government of the people, for the people and by the people.

The above is but a brief outline of a long and eloquent address, spoken with an earnestness which showed faith in the speaker in the destiny of his people.

The applause was enough to suit the most exacting.

At the conclusion the delegates from Louisiana moved that the address be adopted as the address of the convention and be sent to congress. General amendments were moved and rejected and the original motion was almost unanimously adopted.

Retribution.

The grand Old Party is in a bad way, a desperately bad way. Torn to pieces in New York, in Massachusetts, in Iowa, in Kansas, it has every appearance of immediate dissolution.

History has very rarely it ever furnished an example where the conquerors in a great civil war were known to surrender power in the lifetime of that generation which fought the war. If the republican party had been half way decent, if it had made the simplest kind of a show in the name of honesty and peace. If for a single moment it had ever shown that it was a national instead of a sectional organization. If it had not plundered the treasury and violated the constitution. If it had not done so many things which it should not have done, and left undone so many things which it should have done, to-day its dire extremity would not be so great, and its condition so pitiable in the very citadel of its hitherto impregnable lines. But there is a Providence which has to do with all bad parties as well as good ones. It is true that the republican party has considered itself for a long time the elect of the Lord. That there was some sort of a partnership interest between them. That in the furtherance of such alliance it was necessary to be familiar and to call out to the Almighty ever now and then: "How now, Boss!" That the land belonged to it through a superior civilization, and

that all Democrats were first to be robbed and then butchered, politically, as the Puritans first robbed and then butchered the Indians in the flesh. No doubt the devil when he took Christ up to the top of that high mountain was just as unctuous, just as patronizing, just as full of arrogance and self-importance. And yet what is the order? That this same devil shall be chained for a thousand years, and after the thousand years to be put back into his burning lake forever and forever. Bring in the chains for another devil equally as ramperageous.—St. Joe Gazette.

The Rich Man's President.

When President Arthur commences his round of dinner eating at Newport he naturally begins with a dinner at Vanderbilt's villa.

There is an eminent fitness and propriety in this.

Vanderbilt, at Newport, represents the triumph of money in society.

Arthur, in the White House, represents the triumph of money in politics.

Vanderbilt represents the corporate monopoly interests, whose motto is, "the public be damned."

Arthur represents the political monopoly interest, which says in its every act, "the people be damned."

When Arthur and Vanderbilt clink their glasses they understand each other. The money power establishes an alliance, rounds out the collar which it proposes to fasten about the neck of the people.

Arthur is not the people's President; he is the rich man's president.

Judge Hoadly Wasting Away.

Chicago Times.

Philadelphia, Sept. 23.—The great secrecy with which everything concerning Judge Hoadly is guarded, is leading to much trouble. It has within a day or two been telegraphed from this city to Ohio papers that Hoadly has typhoid fever. This is not so. Hoadly is not able to return to Ohio and undertake campaign work, and it is not likely he will be able to do so at all. Ex-Speaker Randall has seen him within a day or two and reports that he is getting better, but very slowly. Another prominent gentleman of this city on the next day had his card returned with the statement that Judge Hoadly had gone riding. This was a pretext, for Hoadly has not been out of his room since he came here. At his hotel it is impossible to get any one to give one word of information. Hoadly himself is very sensitive, and the greatest care is taken to keep from him all newspaper reference and any knowledge of the Ohio campaign. He is reported as having abandoned all thought of election, and does not care for anything beyond the recovery of his health, which has been broken down by an excitement for which he was not in any way fitted.

It is remarkable what subtleties were resorted to by the republican party to stave off any reduction of tariff last sessions. The estimates of Colonel Dudley, the pension commissioner, were in the first place, a round \$150,000,000 for pensions. Congress accepted the estimate, but the investigations of the tariff reformers proved it too much. He then abated \$50,000,000 and \$100,000,000 pensions were provided for. Now it seems that this is too much by \$40,000,000. There will be more money in the treasury next December than there was last.

A San Francisco old woman, who had failed in an attempt to write on a postal card as long a letter as she intended to, presented the spoiled card at the postoffice to be exchanged for a clean one; and when the clerk refused she scratched his face and bit his finger.

With in the past week Philadelphia's postmaster has detained 3,000 packages under the department's order that mail matter on which insufficient postage has been paid shall be held until notice is given the sender that he must pay full postage if he wants the package to go to its destination.

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